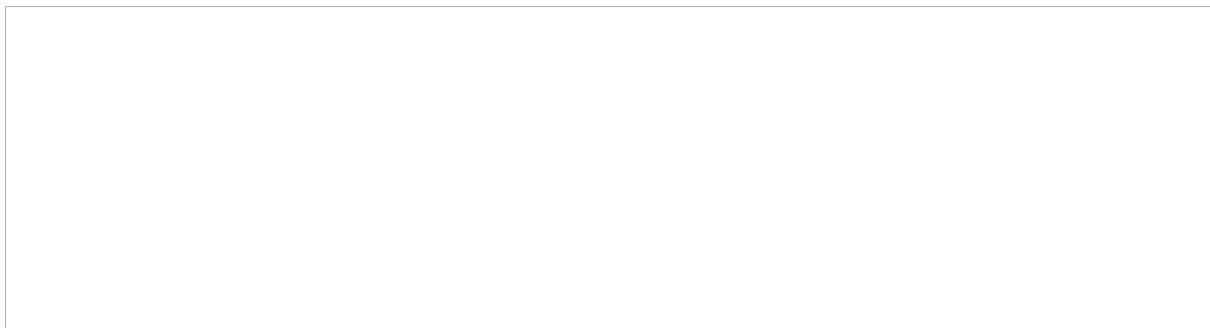
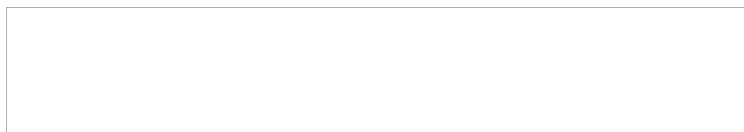


50X1-HUM



DATA ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY

TACTICS - GENERAL



50X1-HUM

November 1950

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Fundamental Tactical Systems

1. General

A. General

1. Basic elements of tactics, which may be regarded as unchanging
 1. Surprise, by maintaining secrecy and by the use of deception
 2. Concentration of forces in as large numbers as possible at the right place and at the right time; conservation of forces at other points

3. Keeping the initiative

- a. By speed in making decisions
- b. By keeping active; never be idle!

4. Look-ahead:

- a. Your own activities to be surveyed; prepare for the necessary measures in good time
- b. The enemy's activities to be surveyed; protect yourself.

5. Arrange for cooperation:

Among the various ~~branches of service~~ and by temporal coordination

6. When your own units are followed by other ~~xxxx~~ subordinate units which are able to attack immediately, or when the situation is clear, commit all units simultaneously, and thus exploit your own superiority of forces at the decisive point.

Whenever the situation is not clear, and the action must first be clarified, maintain an adequately strong reserve, in order to be able to decide the ~~battle~~.

7. An attempt ~~can~~ also be made to attack the enemy simultaneously from different directions, if possible from the rear, at the same time ~~by~~ tying him down from the front.

8. Attack everywhere where the opportunity offers itself.

2. Conditions for success

Success is attained through the cooperation of the various ~~branches~~. In order to achieve success, the following must be effective in the action:

morale

fighting equipment.

Morale is of predominant significance. Success can ~~certainly~~ be attained *only*

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unless there is a firm will to win. The best equipment is useless whenever morale breaks down.

The fighting equipment includes manpower, weapons, and other equipment in the field. The commander must strive to attain and maintain a superiority in fighting equipment, by:

- keeping his men in condition
- utilising weapons and equipment in the proper manner
- expanding and strengthening the area which he holds.

B. The Attack

I. Basic Principles

1. General

Only attack can bring about a decision. Only attack gives the commander the freedom of action which he constantly tries to achieve, which he tries to hold, and which, if lost, he tries to regain.

Attack raises morale and makes it possible to surprise the enemy, but it requires superiority. Attack can be carried out:

against an enemy on the move, in which case a resistance action develops

against an enemy in position.

2. Fire and Movement

a. General

The purpose of fire is to make one's own movements possible by attaining fire superiority. By means of movement, one approaches the enemy, ~~pushes into~~ ^{penetrates} his position, and overcomes him by storm.

b. Fire

One may distinguish:

preparatory fire

fire to support and cover the attack

fire against ^{targets} military vehicles and against air targets

^{bar rage (?)} concluding fire, aimed at holding the objective which has been taken.

Preparatory fire is fire used against the entire depth of the enemy position before the attack troops start toward the ^{targets} definite or presumed objectives.

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The following take part in preparatory fire:

the artillery

the air forces (bombardment)

heavy machine guns, mortars, and regimental batteries of the infantry.

The duration of preparatory fire is $\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 hours.

Fire in support or cover of an attack is laid down ~~xxx~~ against:
centers

the resistance ~~xxxxx~~ which are directly threatening the attacking units; the fire is shifted as the attack demands (support of the attack)

the more remote targets, which are not threatening the attacking units directly, but which must also be brought under fire in order to assure the success of the attack; also command posts, observation posts, the positions of the reserves, artillery positions (cover for the attack).

Fire for support and cover of an attack is laid down by:

the fire echelon, that is, the advance platoons of the advance companies;

the fire base, consisting of the heavy machine guns, the mortars, the regimental batteries, and the antitank cannon. These weapons fire over or alongside the advance echelon;

the artillery.

Fire against ~~military~~ vehicles is laid down by the artillery and the antitank cannon.

Units and fire detachments of
/Echelons following farther to the rear are assigned to fire against air targets.

~~Concluding~~ fire for the purpose of holding objectives taken in the attack is laid down by:

the fire echelon

the fire base

the artillery.

c. Maneuvers

Maneuvers are ~~employed~~ in the ~~main~~ choice of direction and objective for the main attack.

The maneuver may be:

1. Frontal: a breakthrough, followed by encirclement of the wings

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thus developed.

Flank: encirclement of one or both wings (in conjunction with the frontal group) (single or double encirclement); ~~then~~ ^{probably} ~~main~~ attack on flank and rear (not in conjunction with the frontal group).

Every infantry unit, no matter how small, strives under all circumstances ~~in~~ for the opportunity to maneuver: by infiltration, by outflanking the enemy resistance, and by attacks on the flanks and on the rear.

3. Consecutive phases

approach
~~preliminary~~ preliminary combat
 attack
 pursuit.

II. Approach

1. Grouping

A large unit is broken up into several columns, each of which is protected ~~in~~ by a vanguard.

2. Vanguard

Strength must be such that the vanguard can:

reconnoiter over the entire breadth of the sector
 dislodge weak enemy units

form a powerful, cohesive advance front, so that the main body of forces will have time and space to prepare for combat.

Breadth of the sectors to be allotted (in terrain with good visibility):

battalion	maximum 2,000 meters
company	pl.m. $\sqrt{\text{sig}}$ 1,000 meters.

Method of advance

Advance by bounds, from one characteristic line to the next. Units in the first line advance over the entire breadth of the sector. ~~Units~~ Units in the second line make use of routes affording cover.

Grouping

Depending upon the range of vision in the ~~sector~~ sector: one or two companies per battalion in the first line.

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Whenever an encounter with the enemy is possible, heavy machine guns, mortars, and regimental batteries should ~~be~~ move forward by bounds behind the units in the first line.

Artillery assigned to support the vanguard is presumably under the orders of the commander of the vanguard. It should move forward in two echelons, one of which should always remain in position while the other moves.

~~Military vehicles~~ should advance, under cover, behind the second echelon.

III. ~~Re~~ Preliminary Combat

1. General

As soon as the first units have come upon the enemy and have opened fire, the preliminary combat commences. This type of combat may have varying characteristics, depending upon whether the first units have come upon an enemy which is advancing or one which is in position.

2. Preliminary combat again at an enemy who is advancing (~~resistance~~)

The characteristic of this type of combat is speed. Whoever opens fire first, whoever is the ~~first to attack~~ first to attack, whoever first commits strong fire detachments to support the attack, and whoever starts out with a will to defeat the enemy will be the master of the field of battle. The commanders of the subordinate units of the vanguard should develop their action from this standpoint.

Points in the terrain which the vanguard must take in a ~~resistance~~ action:

elevations which provide an opportunity for observation and for firing;
forests and inhabited towns which would provide the enemy a good
~~opportunity~~ jump-off position for an attack if they should fall into his hands;
bridgeheads over streams and other obstacles; mountain passes.

The aim is: to create favorable conditions for the main body of troops for developing the action and going over to attack.

The outcome of the encounter may be one of two, depending upon the forces which the commanders of the subordinate units of the vanguard have developed and ~~on~~ upon the forces which the enemy has committed to combat:

1. The enemy has committed strong forces which cannot be made to

2. The enemy yields; in this case the commander of the vanguard should exploit his success, continue with the attack in order to complete the defeat (keeping in readiness against possible counterattacks), instruct one ~~xx~~ unit to go over to pursuit (in the special tank units), and continue the advance.

Aim: To force the enemy to show his position and his strength

Tanks should not be committed until ~~the~~ the situation is completely clarified and the positions of the antitank weapons ^{are} is entirely known. Then proceed as with the battalion reserve.

IV. Attack

Attack includes:

the breakthrough, the advance to within ~~steering~~ distance, and the

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storm-attack

combat within the enemy position.

2. Preparation for the attack

Preparation for the attack includes:

reconnaissance

the making of the decision and the issuing of orders by the commander
preparatory measures to be taken by the subordinate units.

3. Assembly of the attack troops in the jump-off position

a. Location of the jump-off position

Perhaps (most common): the line which has been reached during the preliminary combat by the first units of the vanguard

Perhaps (if the line reached is quite far away from the enemy): farther forward

Perhaps (if the line reached is not favorable and the enemy ~~may~~ can easily observe troops assembled at the jump-off point and destroy them): farther to the rear.

It would not be wrong from the point of view of expediency to ready the attack troops behind the units which are already in contact with the enemy and under their protection.

b. Requirements which the jump-off point must meet

The jump-off point must:

be located near the enemy, so that the attackers can utilize the fire from the fire base and the attack troops will have to remain under enemy fire for only a short distance

offer an opportunity for observation

offer cover against enemy fire and enemy observation

be at such a distance from the enemy position that the fire from the preparatory shelling by the artillery cannot fall upon the troops assembled at the jump-off point.

c. Taking up position at the jump-off point

quietly

covered from view (that is, during darkness)

as short a time as possible before the hour of attack.

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d. Assembly of the attack troops

~~arrangement~~ at right angles to the direction of attack

fire echelon in the foremost ranks; following echelons behind them, covered and grouped in depth

e. Breadth of the attack sector

For an attack on a weakly fortified position:

battalion	750 meters
company	350 - 400 meters.

f. Fire base

The weapons in the fire base should take up such positions that they can support the attack by the infantry and by the tanks as long as possible without being moved.

Only a part of the antitank weapons should be placed in the fire base. Part of them must be kept ready to be moved forward so that the forward echelon of the infantry will not be without protection in case of a counterattack by tanks.

4. The ~~breakthrough~~, the advance to the attack position, and the assault

At the predetermined hour of attack the infantry and tanks move forward for the attack.

In order to deceive the enemy as to the hour of attack, the preliminary fire should constantly be changed as to duration (long or short pauses) and ^{between} ~~from~~ ^{and} ~~greater~~ ^{lesser} intensity. Also, the fire can be moved forward once or twice before the hour of attack in order to mislead the enemy.

The infantry should utilise the last few minutes of the preparatory fire to ~~be~~ ^{the enemy} approach as closely as possible, without ~~losing the enemy~~, to the safety boundary of the artillery fire.

At the designated hour, the artillery lays down its fire.

It follows from this that the infantry must leave the jump-off ^{point} before the designated hour and cross the outer limits of the jump-off area (starting line) in order to advance to a line nearer the enemy (stern line), the location of which is determined by the safety boundary of the artillery fire.

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It may be assumed that the attack troops should halt at the ~~stern~~ line, although perhaps for only a very short time. The hour of attack is the time at which the attack troops advance from the ~~stern~~ line.

Speed of the attack: 100 meters in three minutes.

5. Combat within the enemy position

The basic principle for the action is speed, so that the enemy will have as little time as possible to take countermeasures.

Units which have overcome enemy resistance which prevented their advance should push farther forward without paying any attention to neighboring units. The flanks will be protected by the units which follow.

The first units should not let themselves be stopped ^{to} ~~by encirclement~~ isolated enemy resistance pockets. This is the task of the units which follow. They should push forward through the openings which are made in the enemy defense system, as far as the support from the artillery and the fire base makes it possible.

The fire base and the artillery observation posts are moved forward as the attack demands.

With further ~~xx~~ penetration into the position, counterattacks may be counted on. Before ~~long~~ the groups can penetrate, the artillery must change its position and ammunition must be brought up.

Therefore the attack troops and the fire support must be organized with an eye to:

- further penetration in the direction indicated;
- beating off counterattacks and destroying any enemy reserves which appear;
- destroying the enemy artillery;
- setting up command posts outside the combat area.

When the objective of the attack is reached, the troops should dig in, take measures to hold the area taken, ~~and~~ ^{by} ~~(including fire)~~, and maintain contact. *in all other cases the same*

V. Pursuit

Must be started immediately; the fall of darkness must not interfere.

Tanks should preferably be sent out.

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The advance companies should start the pursuit. If the battalion commander has a unit in reserve which still has its full supplies of ammunition, he should designate this unit for pursuit. This unit will then cross through the units of the fire echelon.

Artillery should be assigned to the pursuing troops.

C. Defense

I. Defense is purely temporary, and its purpose is:

to make it possible to ~~move~~ ^{allow time} fighting forces -- and therefore the attack -- to another place
to ~~subordinate~~ ^{allow time} group forces, but only up to the point where it is possible to go over to attack again.

II. Principles

1. General

Defense must be:

a. Organized in depth and against tanks; that is, it must be so organized that a mass attack by tanks and infantry, supported by artillery and air forces, can be beaten off

b. Against artillery; that is, the selection and the set-up of the terrain must be such as to afford the troops and the fire detachments complete cover against a mass onslaught of artillery and mortars

c. Against air forces; that is, there must be an opportunity to cause the enemy great losses

d. Active; that is, ^{so that} an enemy who penetrates into the defensive position will be thrown back by a counterattack.

e. In all directions; that is, every unit must be in a position to defend itself ^{on} ~~in~~ all sides if necessary.

Note to a: Depth in the defensive position assures strong resistance and taxes the enemy strength. However, echelonment/in depth is not adequate in itself to repel a mass onslaught of tanks. Therefore an area should be chosen which is unfavorable for tanks (forests, inhabited towns, etc.), even when this means ~~giving up a good field of~~ giving up a good field of

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vision or the opportunity to lay down a good ~~concluding~~ ^{bar} fire.

Note to b: The defensive position offers good protection against massive artillery fire only when ~~the~~ one chooses, in open terrain, a slope on the side away from the enemy, for ^{both} ~~the~~ troops and weapons.

On the slope toward the enemy, minefields and ~~the~~ infantry obstacles should be ~~is~~ laid. Furthermore, observers should be stationed there, who ^{the artillery} ~~can give/a~~ ^{barrage} signal for opening the ~~concluding~~ fire, in addition to a unit of heavy ~~artillery~~ machine guns ~~are~~ to cover the obstacles with enfilade fire.

Note to c: The troops should dig themselves in, camouflage themselves, and set up decoys against air attack. Fire detachments from units stationed farther to the rear should be assigned to cover air targets.

Note to d: The most favorable terrain formations for a counterattack are those where the enemy loses the support from his fire base and from his artillery, after he has crossed through the barrage fire of the defenders.

The most favorable time for a counterattack is when the enemy attack troops have crossed the ridge of the slope from ~~the~~ their approach side and are confronted by a new situation which they cannot survey ~~at first~~.

Note to e: Each unit must take into account the possibility of an encirclement and prepare itself for such an eventuality by its grouping and its fire arrangement.

2. Fire and maneuvers

Fire brings the enemy to a halt.

Maneuvers are used: in choosing the point of main effort and in counterattacks.

The point of main effort for the defense is the area the loss of which would jeopardize the maintenance of the defense position.

Choice of point of main effort:

- a. In breadth ^{sketch}
- b. In depth ^{sketch}

3. Grouping

The main body of troops holds the main position. A detachment is sent out ahead to occupy the outpost positions. Troops can be placed in an outlying position, 15 -20 kilometers ahead of the main position, whose ~~task~~ mission

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is to fight a delaying action, in order to:

- interfere with the enemy's advance
- gain time
- obtain information.

III. The Outpost Positions

1. Mission

To protect the troops stationed in the main position

To give these troops the time necessary to prepare their positions.

In case of an enemy attack, the outposts are to

- a. withdraw to the main position after giving the alarm, or
- b. defend themselves where they are, in order to beat off weak enemy attacks, or to throw a heavier attack into confusion, and then at a favorable moment withdraw to the main position.

2. Grouping

For a (above): In this case, the outposts are weak. They consist of sentries, placed at important points in the terrain.

For b: In this case the outposts are ~~stronger~~ stronger. They take up position in an outpost resistance strip, within which they group themselves in depth, organize their fire, and dig in according to the principles of defense.

~~Strong~~ Sentries are sent out ahead for the ~~protection~~ protection of the outposts.

When a mass attack by tanks may be expected, the outposts should not be assigned to hold their position. In that case they should consist solely of sentries.

3. Spacing distance

The ~~space~~ between the outpost resistance line and the main position must be such that:

on the one hand, the outpost resistance line can protect the main position against fire from ~~hand-weapons~~ weapons, and

on the other hand, the outpost resistance line can be observed by at least one detachment of artillery.

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IV. The Main Position

1. Mission

To hold the position.

2. Grouping [sketch]

Main line of resistance

~~Middle line~~

Interception line

Advance companies,
battalion reserves,
regimental reserves,
Artillery and reserves
of the large units.

Since it is not advisable for the defender always to group as shown above, since he would thus make it much easier for the enemy in making the plans for attack, the main body of the combat forces may also be placed in some line other than the first one (as is shown in the sketch "choice of point of main effort in depth").

Following are the sizes of the area which may be assigned to the ~~following~~ various units:

Battalion	2000 meters in breadth, 1,500 meters in depth
Company	750 meters in breadth, 400 meters in depth
Platoon	250 - 300 meters in breadth, 50 meters in depth
Group	100 meters in breadth, 50 meters in depth.

Each unit should group itself in its assigned area in such a way ~~that~~ as to assure ~~unity~~ and the possibility of defense on all sides; that is, each unit should form a support point (platoon support point, company support point, etc.) The areas between the support points should be protected with mines/ fields and obstacles and should be covered by machine-gun fire.

(three groups and four light machine guns)
A platoon support point/should measure at most 150 meters in breadth and 100 meters in depth.

3. Fire

a. General

The attacker is halted by fire. Therefore the fire ~~is~~ must be prepared in such a way that it is:

uniform, dense, and deep.

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In this connection attention must be given to:

- the location of the point of main effort of the defense
- the enemy's attack possibilities.

Fire is laid down by the antitank weapons, machine guns, heavy weapons, and artillery, and supported by machine pistols and hand grenades.

Fire which is ~~unified~~, and is so arranged that the terrain ~~in question~~ is parallel to the defense position and cuts it off, forms barrage fire.

Barrage fire may be:

1. barrage fire against tanks. The fire plan is specially worked out, ~~including only the standpoint of defense against tanks.~~ considering

2. barrage fire against infantry. The fire plan is worked out considering only the standpoint of infantry weapon fire, principally the machine guns.

Both types of barrage fire are supplemented by mortar fire and ~~artillery~~ ^{strengthened by} fire.

Barrage fire must be ~~unified~~. The density and depth are dependent upon the objective to be attained and the ~~available~~ ^{before} means.

Barrage fire should be prepared ~~for~~ ^{before} each line. The barrage fire ~~for~~ before the main line of resistance is called storm fire.

b. Fire plan of the infantry

The infantry's fire plan includes:

1. Barrage fire before the position; barrage fire within the position.
2. Fire concentration before the position, and if necessary, also within the position.
3. Fire ~~contact~~ ^{between} between the units.
4. Fire against tanks.
5. Fire against aircraft.
6. Long-distance ~~fire~~ ^{Y-amm} fire.

The fire plan also includes:

the signal for ~~releasing~~ ^{when} fire and the ~~the~~ designation of the commanders who are responsible for giving the signal.

the manner of firing.

the hour for firing.

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Note to 1: Storm Fire

The barrage fire before the position -- ~~storm~~ fire -- has a depth of 600 meters.

The Commander decides upon the location of the barrage fire, the places where the fire should be particularly heavy, and the weapons which should participate.

~~Assess~~ Storm fire is strengthened by the artillery:

before the point of main effort

where the infantry ~~has~~ barrage fire is not sufficiently deep

where the position is weak

where there are good approach possibilities for the enemy.

Storm fire takes precedence over all other types of fire, except for fire against tanks.

The enemy utilizes the preliminary firing in order to approach up to within 150 - 200 meters of the position (the security boundary). During this approach the infantry weapons will not be able to impede him completely; therefore the gun crews must cover themselves so as to escape destruction by the artillery fire. These (infantry) weapons cannot open fire until the enemy has left the artillery fire farther to the rear. At that moment the infantry goes over to a storm attack, and the infantry weapons belonging to the units in the first line must open fire.

therefore

The greatest emphasis is on the fire which is organized by the infantry weapons up to a distance of 200 meters from the outer edge of the position.

An effort ^{should} ~~must~~ be made to achieve great depth (400 meters) in case the enemy does not use preliminary fire for advancing for the attack or in case the preliminary fire does not permit the opening of barrage fire. All weapons which can fire from within the depth of the position must ~~take part~~ in the fire in the 200-meter-wide strip before the outer edge of the position.

Note to 2: Fire concentrations

Fire concentrations are prepared before important sectors of the position in case of a local attack.

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Note to 3: Fire contact

Fire contact assures that the barrage fire of ~~neighboring~~ adjoining units will be uniform and without gaps.

Note to 4: Fire against tanks

The emphasis is on passive defense, at strategic points, supplemented by antitank weapons.

An effort must be made to halt a tank attack before it reaches the position. To this end, one unit of antitank weapons must be placed sufficiently far forward so that they can ^{lay down} ~~bring~~ effective fire at least 200 meters before the outer edge of the position. Furthermore, the antitank weapons must be grouped in depth.

Note to 5: Fire against aircraft

Fire against aircraft is laid down in the same manner as in the case of an attack.

Note to 6: Long-distance fire

Long-distance fire must delay the approach of the enemy, hinder a breakthrough from the terrain sectors in question, and prevent the enemy from remaining in ~~the~~ such terrain sectors.

It may take the form of harassing fire or destructive fire, and is laid down by heavy machine guns from forward or alternate positions.

c. Artillery fire

The artillery fire plan includes:

1. Harassing and ~~disturbing~~ fire
2. ~~Fire aimed against enemy preparations~~
3. Fire against tanks
4. Barrage fire
5. Fire in support of a counterattack

Note to 1: Harassing and ~~disturbing~~ fire

The purpose of harassing and ~~disturbing~~ fire is to hinder the enemy's movements. Such fire is also laid down against occupied towns, troop concentrations, command posts, etc.

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Note to 2: ~~Fire aimed against enemy preparations~~

~~Fire against enemy preparations~~ is designed to throw the enemy troops into confusion and ~~undermining~~ his attack forces before they can advance to attack.

Note to 3: Fire against tanks

Fire against tanks takes precedence over all other types of fire.

Note to 4: Barrage fire

Barrage fire serves to supplement or strengthen the barrage fire of the infantry in terrain sectors which cannot be covered by the infantry or which are important or are threatened.

Note to 5: Fire in support of a counterattack

Fire in support of a counterattack is laid down in the same manner as fire in support of an attack.

4. The Counterattack

The counterattack always has a limited objective, that is, the recovery of a lost terrain sector and the restitution of the status which existed before the enemy pushed into the position.

The following should be distinguished:

a. Counterthrust -- a brief counterattack by a small unit, usually a platoon

b. Counterattack -- a counterattack by a company or a battalion, supported by artillery and tanks.

The counterthrust is executed at ~~that~~ moment when the enemy goes over to the ~~storm-attack~~. At that moment the enemy is exhausted and in disorder.

He should not be allowed time to rest and organize.

The counterattack must be:

Quick.

A surprise; prepared for.

Supported by artillery, and if possible, by tanks.

The most effective is the flank attack. In this case the flanks of the attacking troops must be protected by the terrain.

The counterattack is executed by units stationed farther to the rear, which:

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either ~~xxxxxx~~ draw up a suitable formation for the purpose, or are shifted at the proper time.

As soon as the counterattack is prepared, it should start, regardless of whether the enemy is still on the move or whether he has been brought to a halt.

D. The Delaying Action

I. Purpose

The delaying action may be executed by:

an entire unit, with the purpose of gaining the time necessary for other troops farther to the rear to be given an opportunity either to attack or to prepare for defense.

a rear-guard, with the purpose of giving the main body of a unit which has received ~~xxxx~~ orders to retreat the opportunity to do so.

II. Basic Principles

1. Withdraw only on orders

2. Gain time:

- a. by defending various ~~at~~ retreat positions,
- b. by destroying communications, by building barricades, and by

laying mines.

3. Do not let yourself be forced into combat under circumstances favorable for the enemy.

III. Grouping

Depends upon whether the terrain is suitable or unsuitable for the use of tanks.

If the terrain is unsuitable for tanks:

The unit which is executing the delaying action is divided into two echelons, placed in two positions, one behind the other. After ~~xxxx~~ breaking off the action ^{and evacuating} ~~in and around~~ the first position, the first echelon withdraws to a third position and ~~xxxx~~ strengthens the occupation of the second position.

The distance between the positions must be such that the enemy, in attacking ~~the~~ each succeeding position, will be compelled to move his fire base and his artillery observation posts.

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Conditions which the positions must fulfill:

possibility for observation and for firing at a great distance
opportunity to break off the action and commence the retreat.

Width of the front:

battalion	maximum 3,000 meters
company	maximum 1,500 meters.

Delaying action may be conducted in one echelon in case:

the first position offers a favorable opportunity to break off the action

it is possible to withdraw to the second ~~position~~ position quickly and in order

occupation of the second position in good time is assured.

If the terrain is suitable for the use of tanks:

Division into two units is not possible, since:

there are not enough anti-tank weapons available to divide them between two groups

breaking off the action and withdrawing during daylight is not possible under the pressure of large tank units.

Therefore in this case one echelon sets itself up for defense, behind a natural obstacle, following the basic ~~xx~~ principles governing defense.

Breaking off the action and withdrawal are possible in this case only at night.

IV. Breaking off the action

a. At night (preferable)

At the hour set for breaking off the action, small units remain behind in the positions occupied thus far. It is their task to ~~develop~~ combat activity, by laying down fire and by executing small operations, which will make it appear that the entire position is completely occupied. These units remain where they are until dawn, after which they withdraw to their detachment. The artillery should also leave a few pieces in the position to contribute to the impression that the position is fully occupied.

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the position quietly and
The other troops evacuate/in order, beginning with those stationed
farthest to the rear, and proceed by the shortest route toward an assembly
point in the rear, from which point they begin the ~~ordered~~ withdrawal.

From daybreak on, the withdrawal of these troops is covered by a rear
guard, which should take up its position while it is still dark.

b. By daylight (possible)

Can only be done in rolling or overgrown terrain. The withdrawal of
the units in the first line must be covered by ~~artillery~~ fire from the ar-
tillery, heavy weapons, and machine guns -- also by tanks, if they are avail-
able. The withdrawal is covered by a rear guard which has taken up positions
~~from~~ farther to the rear.

E. March; Protection during March

I. March

1. Shifts in location may be made by:

marching
train, truck, or ship
aircraft.

2. Composition of the columns

Preferably, ~~columns of one type of service branch~~

3. Preparation

Reconnoitering of the march route
Determination of a starting point.

4. Rate of march

Ordinary march:

Service Branch	Kilometers per Hour		Kilometers per Day
	Day	Night	
Infantry	4 - 5	3	25 - 30
Artillery (animal drawn)	6 - 8	5	40
Cavalry	8	6	50
Tank troops	10 - 15	5 - 7	80 - 120
Motorized columns	15 - 20	7 - 10	150

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Forced march:

Infantry	up to 40 kilometers per day)	} more during a retreat.
Artillery	up to 60 kilometers per day)	
Cavalry	up to 70 kilometers per day)	
Tank troops	120 - 150 kilometers per day)	
Motorized columns	up to 200 kilometers per day)	

5. Rest

- 20 - 30 minutes after the start: 15 minutes
- Every hour or every two hours: 10 - 20 minutes
- After three-quarters of the distance has been covered: 1 - 3 hours.

6. Distance between units:

When there is danger of air attack, 30 - 50 meters between platoons.

7. Special regulations for movement/ in motor vehicles.

Distance between vehicles: 20 meters, unless otherwise ordered when there is threat of air attack. Reconnaissance of the march route even more important. Load capacity and traction power must be fully utilized, even though the organizational unity of groups or platoons is thus destroyed.

8. Special regulations for tank columns

Tanks may be moved:

~~separately~~ alone
together with other ~~service~~ branches.

In the latter case, the tank unit proceeds ~~in jumps~~ at the head of the march or at the end; or it may follow another, parallel road. The latter is preferable.

Rest: After 1 hour: 20 - 30 minutes
After 3 hours: 20 - 30 minutes
After 5 - 6 hours: 1 - 2 hours
Every 2 hours thereafter: 20 - 30 minutes.

Distances between:

Tanks:	20 - 50 meters
Platoons	20 - 50 meters meters
Companies	75 - 100 meters
Battalions	1,000 meters
Regiments	1,000 meters.

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II. March Security Service

1. Security must be directed against

1. Air forces
2. Armored forces which may penetrate through your own front
3. Parachute troops and partisans.

2. The objectives of security are:

1. To protect the troops against an attack and to impede enemy

~~intelligence~~ observation

reconnoiter

2. To ~~reconnoiter~~ the most favorable terrain for deployment and

for combat in case of an encounter with the enemy, and to determine covered approach routes to that terrain.

3. To give timely warning of impending danger or of obstacles ~~in~~ on the route.

4. To clear away small obstacles on the route.

3. Grouping (see sketch)

Advance guard -- 1/6 - 1/3 of the strength.

Flank cover

Main body of troops

Rear guard.

4. Advance guard

a. Composition

supported by

Infantry, tanks, artillery, engineers, anti-tank weapons.

When necessary for reconnoitering at great distances, motorcycle units may be assigned.

b. Distribution (see sketch)

Reconnaissance echelon

2 - 4 kilometers

Advance patrol
(also: advance group)
1 group

600 meters by day
100 meters by night

Advance guard
Vanguard
Strengthened platoon
(minus 1 group) under
an officer; engineers
antitank weapons.

600 - 1000 meters
(1)

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Advance guard Combat echelon

First echelon of the
advance guard (also:
advance troop).
1 company (minus 1 pla-
toon)

1000 - 1500 meters
(2)

Second echelon of the
advance guard.
1 battalion (minus 1
company)

2 - 4 kilometers
(3)

Main body of troops

Main body of troops
1 regiment (minus 1
battalion)

- (1) Is also set at 1 - 2 kilometers by day, 600 meters by night.
- (2) Is also set at 2 - 3 kilometers.
- (3) Is also set at 3 - 5 kilometers.

5. Flank cover

a. Mobile flank cover

Moves on a level with the head of the main body of troops. Distance
depends upon the terrain.

(See sketch).

Advance
~~troop~~ guard

Main body of troops	Up to 2000 meters	Up to 600 meters
---------------------	----------------------	---------------------

b. Stationary flank cover

(See sketch)

Advance guard

Main body of troops

Assigned at the most important point, especially where there is a possi-
bility of a flank attack.

Remains in position until the main body of troops have passed by.

6. Rear guard

Strength: dependent upon ~~the situation~~ how much threat there is.

Distribution: the same as the advance guard.

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I. Camp

1. Cantonment
2. Bivouac
3. Bivouac in towns

1. Normal camp
2. Camp in alert quarters.

1. General

a. At all times: by taking account, ~~not~~ when deciding on the camp area, attacks of the natural cover which it provides against air ~~attacks~~ and the obstacles which it affords against tanks.

c. Sometimes, in addition: by outposts, whenever the troops behind whom the camp is being made are not in a position to ~~offer~~ an unbroken front.

a. Posts

b. Strength

3. Outposts

a. Task

b. Posts

In a line before the position which is especially favorable against tanks.

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c. Distribution

Warning echelon

Mission: observation. Prevent enemy observations. Withdraw along previously determined routes in the face of strong enemy forces, after having warned the echelon which is to offer resistance.

Composition: comprises in the strength of one group or one platoon.

Echelon which is to offer resistance:

Mission: to make a stand in position until the coming troops are ready for combat.

Composition: outpost detachments in the strength of one company, supplemented by heavy machine guns, mortars, and/or antitank weapons, and supported by artillery.

Reserve

Mission: to supplement a threatened outpost detachment;
to execute a counterattack; or
to offer resistance on the spot.

In order to avoid repetition, the information which has already been given in "Section I -- General", particularly in sub-sections II (The Attack) and III (Defense), will not be included here.

Infantry is the ~~principal service branch~~. The activities of the other ~~service branches~~ are directed toward supporting the infantry.

Against an enemy which has organized his fire judiciously and has dug
in in the terrain, the infantry ~~must~~ ^{should} be supported by artillery, armored troops,
~~and~~ the air forces, and the engineers. However, it need not hesitate to act
resolutely even when the support from these other branches is not very great.

Individual weapons: rifles with bayonets, hand grenades, pistols.

Heavy weapons: mortars, antitank mortars, antitank cannon: used for special purposes.

4. General

The infantry fights by means of fire and movement.

The purpose of the fire is to attain fire ~~exposure~~ ^{overlook}:

in an attack, to make one's own movements possible

in defense, to make the enemy's movements impossible.

The purpose of movement is:

in attack, to ^{approach} ~~approach~~ the enemy, to force one's way into his position, and to conquer him by ^{storm} ~~storm~~ attack.

in defense, to defeat the enemy by a counterattack and to regain lost territory.

b. Fire

1. Preferably concentrated fire, by organizing a large part of

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the available weapons against ~~special~~ ^{special} targets, in order to destroy them in succession.

2. The effect of the fire is dependent upon:

the nature of the weapons and ammunition
the accuracy and the density of the fire
the nature of the terrain
the leadership of the commander.

3. The accuracy of the fire is dependent upon:

the training of the gunner
the composure of the gunner.

4. Density of fire depends upon:

rate of fire
number of weapons.

5. The fire must be adapted to the nature of the terrain in such a way that any target is fired upon in the most effective manner.

The following types of fire may be differentiated:

frontal fire, which is usual in an attack; in defense, frontal fire supplements other types of fire, in order to assure unbroken fire and to increase the fire density.

~~ambush~~ ^{ambush} fire, which is more effective than frontal fire because of the greater chance of hits and because of the effect on morale.

~~flank~~ ^{flank} flanking fire, which is the most effective; should be used as much as possible; must be opened suddenly.

crossfire.

6. Fire supremacy. Every unit must strive to attain fire supremacy.

Fire supremacy is attained by silencing, ~~the enemy weapons~~ ^{the enemy weapons} in breadth and depth, ~~the effect of which~~ ^{the effect of which} may be felt in the area where the unit is located.

7. Fire plan

Every commander is responsible for organizing the fire of the unit under his command as appropriately as possible. This is done by means of the fire plan.

Depending upon ~~the~~ ^{the} circumstances, the fire plan:

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is first drawn up only in broad outline, after which the commander coordinates successively the measures of the subordinate commanders.

is then immediately worked out ~~completely~~.

The fire plan specifies:

targets or sectors of the terrain which are to be fired upon
units or ~~service-branches~~ which are to lay down this fire; assignment of the fire units.

time at which fire is to be opened; duration of the fire; ~~method~~ ^{manner} of firing.

shift of fire to other targets; change of position.

Each ~~service-branch~~ has a fire assignment, that is, one main mission and one or more less important missions. The secondary missions are carried out in the previously specified order, whenever the main mission cannot be carried out.

8. Fire in an attack (See "General" section).

9. Fire during defense (See "General" section).

c. Movement

1. Movement is decisive.

In order to limit losses, fire is utilized, but there should never be any hesitation about beginning the movement.

2. Type of movement

Either steadily or in short rushes, depending upon enemy observation and enemy fire, also depending upon one's own fire.

2. The commander indicates:

the direction of the advance;

the terrain sector which must be reached, or

the strip along which the advance is to be made;

the point from which the advance is to be made and the time for beginning the advance;

where stops are to be made and for how long.

4. Maneuvers

Every infantry unit, no matter how small, must strive under all conditions for an opportunity to maneuver:

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by infiltration

by outflanking the enemy resistance

by attacks on the flanks and rear.

4. Preparation and execution of the attack (see "General" section).

5. Preparation and execution of defense (see "General" section).

6. Machine pistol units

Are employed to:

1. attack ~~minor~~ targets, headquarters, and communications in the enemy's flanks and rear
2. carry out minor attack operations
3. increase the density of the barrage fire
4. halt the advance of an enemy who has penetrated into the interior of the defense position
5. destroy enemy ~~weak~~ detachments which have penetrated to the rear
6. protect a ~~new~~ maneuver being carried out by another unit.

Appendix

Figure 1
Infantry group in column

Figure 3 ~~Group in column, depth~~
Formation of skirmish line by a group from the center ~~to the right and left to form a skirmish line~~

Figure 5
Machine-pistol group in skirmish line (spaced at 8 - 10 paces)

Figure 7
Machine-pistol group in skirmish line, the pistol ~~line~~ ^{gunner} to the left of the ~~other~~ gunner.

Figure 9
The platoon with the groups alongside one another.

Figure 11
The platoon in triangle formation (one group ahead).

Figure 2
Infantry group in skirmish line (spaced at 5 - 8 paces)

Figure 4 ~~Group in column, depth~~
Formation of skirmish line by a group to the right ~~(to form a skirmish line)~~

Figure 6
Machine-pistol group in skirmish line, with the pistol ~~gunner~~ ^{gunner} to the right of the assistant ~~machine-pistol~~

Figure 8
The platoon with the groups one behind the other

Figure 10
The platoon ~~with~~ in triangle formation (two groups ahead). Breadth and depth generally not more than 150 meters for infantry platoons, 200 meters for machinepistol platoons.

Figure 12
The platoon in triangle formation with one group echeloned to the right.

Figure 13

Platoon echeloned to the left.

Figure 14

Platoon echeloned to the right.

Figure 15

Platoon in defense.

Explanation of symbols

Group commander

Commander of machine-pistol group

Platoon commander

pl.v.v. [sig] platoon commander

Light machine gunner

Light machine gun assistant

Machine pistol ^{gunner} ~~gunner~~

Soldier

Sharpshooter

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~**2. Tactics of Armored Troops****1. Nature**

An attack ^{branch} ~~branch~~, which fulfills its mission in conjunction with the infantry, the artillery, the air forces, and the engineers. These ^{branches} ~~branches~~ provide the necessary protection for the armored troops so that the latter can exploit their fire and shock potential.

2. General rules for use

Generally in mass (armored brigade or armored regiment), supplemented if necessary by motorized infantry.

In special cases (fighting in forests, in mountains, in towns, or in heavily fortified terrain): employ smaller units which are assigned to the infantry and placed directly under the command of the infantry commander. Furthermore, in an attack on a heavily fortified position, heavy tanks may be assigned to special attack units.

3. Attack**a. General**

The tanks support the infantry attack throughout the entire depth

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of the enemy defense position.

With their fire they destroy the enemy's fire units, fighting men, and tanks.

They open a road for the infantry through the wire barricades. In ~~the same way~~ ^{general,} the tanks go ahead of the infantry. In terrain where visibility is ~~very~~ ^{poor}, it is advantageous for the infantry to advance ahead of the tanks.

b. Preparation for attack

Time of preparation: one to three days, depending upon the mission.

The following are necessary for the success of the attack:

knowledge of the attack terrain and of the enemy's tank defense system (air photographs)

knowledge of gaps in the antitank barriers and in the minefields
accurate coordination with the infantry, the artillery, the air forces, and the engineers.

readiness of materiel.

The commander of the entire operation decides:

^{mission}
the ~~assignment~~ of the infantry, which is supported by the tanks; the jump-off position and the attack sector; the direction of the attack, the objective, and the hour of attack.

^{mission}
the ~~assignment~~ of the tanks; the ~~assignment of security guards~~, the jump-off point, the attack sector, the direction of attack, the objective, and the hour of attack.

^{mission}
the ~~assignment~~ of the artillery; the hour for starting and the duration of the preparatory fire, also the targets against which the fire is to be directed (in particular, the knocking out of ~~cannon~~ ^{artillery} and other antitank weapons which have been located; also the opening of passages through minefields and barricades); resistance against which the artillery must direct its fire after the infantry and tanks have reached a certain attack objective.

the mission of the air forces: the time for starting the preparation for the attack and the duration; also the objectives which are to be attacked in this connection.

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the mission of the engineers: the number of openings to be made through the antitank barriers.

The waiting point is the terrain sector where the tanks are assembled after receiving orders for the execution of a combat assignment and before going into action.

The waiting point must be:

located at a distance of 10 - 15 kilometers from the outermost boundary of the enemy position

covered against ground and air attacks

provided with good means of egress.

During the period of waiting at the waiting point:

measures are agreed on for provisioning ~~of~~ with fuel, food, and ammunition

material is checked

roads leading to the jump-off point are reconnoitered

the fire support to be given ~~in~~ is agreed upon with the unit to be supported and with the neighboring units.

The attack objectives are chosen in such a way that:

they will be visible to the tank crews

the tanks are protected by artillery and by the fire base

the terrain will afford a covered assembly point after ~~the~~ the attack objective has been reached.

The breadth of the attack sector is:

for an armored brigade 800 - 1200 meters

for an armored regiment 500 - 800 meters

for an armored battalion 400 - 600 meters.

c. Execution of the attack. First phase

At the moment agreed upon for the attack, the tanks advance with the greatest possible speed, without a halt, and in the formation which they had adopted ^{at} in the jump-off point. The formation of the ~~x~~ attacking units can be changed thereafter only by the addition of a unit held in reserve.

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As soon as the tanks have passed through the foremost infantry echelon, which in the meantime has taken up ~~their~~ ^{its} assault position, they should open up heavy fire on the ^{centers of} enemy/resistance, either while on the move or during a brief halt, and should if possible attack these centers of ~~enemy~~ resistance on the flank or ~~in~~ the rear.

When the tanks have approached to within 150 - 200 meters of the outer boundary of the enemy defense position, and the artillery has shifted ^{its fire} to targets farther to the rear, the tanks should ~~penetrate~~ penetrate into the depth of the position, moving up close behind the exploding artillery shells.

For the infantry, the arrival of the tanks at the foremost ~~skirmish~~ ^{skirmish} line is the signal to attack. Simultaneously with the tanks, the infantry attacks the outer line of the enemy defense position and follows behind the tanks as closely as possible.

It is the duty of the infantry:

- to silence with its fire the enemy antitank weapons
- to comb the terrain
- to track down enemy tanks
- to clear minefields and make passages through them
- to help the tanks in crossing difficult terrain
- to assist in bringing up fuel and ammunition
- to cover the removal of damaged tanks
- to occupy the terrain overrun by the tanks.

Contact between the infantry and the tanks must be preserved under all circumstances. The tanks must not outdistance the infantry by more than 200 - 400 meters. Whenever the infantry cannot advance further behind the tanks, the tank commander assigns some of the tanks to eliminate the resistance which is hindering the advance of the infantry.

^{the advance of the tanks}
The artillery supports ^{the advance of the tanks} with its fire during the entire course of the attack. It shifts its fire forward in accordance with the rate at which ~~the~~ the tanks advance, and in this connection it fires especially at the ~~cannon~~ ^{other} and other antitank weapons which appear ahead of or on the flank of the tank detachments. Part of the artillery should be kept ready to come into position for point-blank firing.

CONCEPT

~~Cannon on motorized gun-carriages~~ follow behind the attacking tanks and direct their fire against the enemy tanks and antitank weapons.

Contact between the artillery and the tanks is made:

before the attack -- by personal and telephone contact between the commander of the artillery and the tank commander
 during the attack -- by radio, by ~~agreed-upon signals~~, and by continuous observation of the advancing tanks by artillery observers. Artillery ~~observers~~ officers are placed in the tanks as advance observers.

The mission of the air forces is to guide the tanks (by radiotelephone) toward their attack objective.

Coordination between the ~~air forces~~ ~~air forces~~ must be accurately prepared.

Contact is maintained by radio, by agreed-upon signals, and by dropping report pouches.

The engineers make passages through the antitank barriers, primarily through minefields. For this purpose they are assigned to the tank units, but they advance with the foremost infantry echelon and do not proceed farther forward until the commander of the tanks gives the signal.

During combat activities within the depth of the defense position, the engineers take places in the tanks. They render assistance to tanks which become stuck at a barrier and also assist in the removal of damaged tanks. Furthermore, they prepare the ~~main~~ routes for the use of the tanks of the following echelon.

d. Execution of the attack. Second phase.

Once they have penetrated into the enemy defense position, the tanks are to :

- repulse any enemy counterattack
- destroy enemy reserves which are moved up
- prevent the enemy artillery from changing its position
- support the infantry -- with a detachment of tanks -- in knocking out enemy resistance which has not yet been eliminated.

The tanks' combat activities in the depth of the enemy defense position is protected by:

~~cannon on motorized gun-carriages~~

the artillery

the air forces

the fire ~~organs~~^{units} of the infantry.

On a signal from the commander of the tank unit, the reserve moves forward by bounds, from cover to cover.

When an attack objective has been reached, the tanks assemble at an assembly point. This assembly point must be:

located at a distance of one to two kilometers behind their own front line

covered against ground and air observation
necessary to equip and repair the tanks
not too far removed from an access route along which supplies can

be brought by vehicle.

During the halt at the assembly point:

the tanks should be inspected and repaired

measures should be taken to load up with fuel, food, and ammunition.
located behind the front formed by the infantry,

Reserve assembly points, are designated so that in case the attack fails
the assignment can be carried out in a new direction or in a different formation.

e. Pursuit

If the enemy offers only weak resistance or if he withdraws, the tanks attack him and pursue him without waiting for their own infantry.

If the infantry is motorized, it joins in the pursuit, making use of its means of transportation. Otherwise ~~it~~^{the infantry} can take part in the pursuit only if the men take places in the tanks. In addition, in the case of an armored brigade (regiments), self-propelled guns and engineers are assigned.

The tanks are to:

destroy the retreating enemy and prevent him from again taking up a defense position

force the enemy to break up into small units and destroy these one after another

penetrate into the centers of resistance ~~behind the enemy's rear~~
which are covering the withdrawal of the enemy's main fighting forces

occupy road junctions and defiles in the enemy's rear and thus
cut off the retreating units

destroy enemy reserves moving up to the front and to disrupt the
enemy's supplies and transports.

The infantry is to:

attack enemy centers of resistance, together with the tanks

map up forests and towns

organize ~~unknown~~ defense for cutting off the enemy's retreat
routes

conduct reconnaissance.

4. Defense

armored troops

As a rule, no special assignment is given to ~~units~~ in defense.

They are used:

as reserves, for executing a counterattack

to ~~supplement~~ infantry units, in which case ~~some~~ some of the tanks
form the non-mobile armored core of the defense while the remainder remain
mobile.

The commander of the entire operation decides:

the mission of the units which are to occupy the position

the mission of the tanks, the direction of the counterattack, the
waiting point, the jump-off point.

the

the coordination between the tanks and/infantry, the artillery,
and the engineers (passages through one's own minefields and antitank bar-
riers).

Appendix

1. Assembly Formation

Platoon

Company

third

~~third~~ platoons

second platoon

1st platoon

2. March Formation

When Halted		On the Move	
Platoon	Company	Platoon	Company
	1st platoon		1st platoon
	2nd platoon		2nd platoon
	3rd platoon		3rd platoon

3. Combat Formation

Forward Echeloned ~~Platoon~~

	Platoon	
	Company	
	1st platoon	
3rd platoon		2nd platoon

4. Combat Formation

Rear Echeloned

	Platoon	
	Company	
3rd platoon		2nd platoon
	1st platoon	

5. Combat Formation

Line

	Platoon	
	Company	
3rd platoon	1st platoon	2nd platoon

6. Combat Formation

Echeloned right

	Platoon	
	Company	
3rd platoon	1st platoon	
		2nd platoon

7. Combat Formation

Echeloned left

	Platoon	
	Company	
3rd platoon	1st platoon	2nd platoon

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4. Artillery Tactics

1. The artillery is regarded as an indispensable means of warfare in all combat activities.

2. Types of guns

~~Artillery~~
Cannon

Howitzers

Mortars (not only the very heavy ~~maximum~~ 30-centimeter mortars but also the 11-centimeter or 12-centimeter mortars; the 8-centimeter mortars belong to the infantry).

3. Types of projectiles

~~Explosive shells~~ High-explosive shells

Shrapnel

Antitank shells

Gas shells

Incendiary shells

Star shells

Propaganda shells (filled with pamphlets which undermine the enemy's morale)

4. Fire tempo, that is, the number of rounds per minute, may be:

normal: 2 rounds per minute for light artillery, 1 round for heavy

slow: slower than normal

rapid: limited to a few minutes.

It is assumed that the maximum rate of fire, which before World War II ^{was} ~~maximum~~ trebled (?) [sig] during the last war as the result of the better construction of the material.

5. ~~Storage~~ Range

For division artillery, up to 18 kilometers, depending upon the type of gun.

6. Type of fire

Annihilation fire, when the target must be destroyed, that is, ^{there} must be assurance that it will be hit. As a rule half the range is used.

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Neutralization fire, when the target must be threatened in such a way that it is forced to ~~an~~ cover itself. As a rule, 2/3 of the range is used.

7. Time required before fire can be opened

If fire is prepared for: two minutes after ~~receiving~~ receiving the proper orders (signal). When the opening of fire is in conjunction with a change of target: 8 - 10 minutes.

When the fire is not prepared for: 30 minutes or longer.

Prepared concentrated fire: 10 minutes after receipt of the proper orders (signal).

Unprepared concentrated fire: 1/2 - 3/4 hour after receipt of the proper orders.

8. ^{Security} ~~Security~~ boundary

Depends upon caliber, type of projectile, possibilities for cover.

Under favorable circumstances: 150 - 200 meters.

Under unfavorable circumstances: 400 - 500 meters.

9. Observation

Is regarded as of the utmost importance.

10. Contact with the infantry

Is maintained through liaison officers who are sent out by the detachment which is being supported by the artillery.

11. Tactical distribution

In an attack, the division artillery is divided into:

one group for direct support, which supports and protects the attacking units by bringing its fire to bear on the centers of resistance which are directly threatening these attacking units

one group for general assignments, which fires at more distant targets, which may not be threatening the attacking units directly, but which must be brought under fire in order to assure the success of the attack: command posts, observation posts, areas where reserves are stationed; also, ~~artillery~~ combat against enemy artillery.

In defense: p.m. [sig]

12. Mission in an attack

1. Preparatory fire, laid down by the entire artillery. The purpose is to destroy ^{units} nearby enemy fire organs before the beginning of the attack, and silence

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also to create openings through barriers.

The duration depends upon the number of targets and upon the quality of the enemy forces.

The attack may also be made without preparatory fire, for example, when the infantry is supported by tanks.

When the preparatory fire is finished, there is started:

2. Fire in direct support of the attack, which is laid down by the group designated for direct support. This fire may be:

a. fire against specified centers of resistance which are hindering the advance of the attack

b. rolling barrage

c. barrage fire ~~in~~ to protect ~~the~~ an objective which has been taken.

Note to a: Fire against specified centers of resistance is aimed at destroying and silencing nearby centers of resistance. After the infantry and the tanks move forward, the fire is shifted to other known or suspected centers of resistance.

Note to b: The rolling barrage is not often ~~used~~ practicable (requires a great many guns and a great deal of ammunition; is used when there are many targets or when the targets are on a downward slope which cannot be viewed from the observation posts). This type of fire is laid down at intervals of 50 - 100 meters and is rapidly shifted forward, along with the fire of the attacking infantry.

Note to c: Barrage fire to protect an objective which has been taken is aimed at supporting the infantry in repulsing counterattacks.

3. Protective fire

This type of fire is laid down by the group designated for general assignments. It must silence the enemy's sources of fire and reserves which have been located in the depth of the enemy position, where the infantry and the tanks have not yet attacked, and which ~~may~~ threaten or may threaten the infantry and tanks.

13. Mission in defense

1. Harassing ~~and~~ disturbing fire.

Laid down against specified terrain sectors in order to hinder the

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enemy's movements. Such fire is also used against towns occupied by enemy troops, assembly points, headquarters, etc.

2. Counterpreparation fire

Fire is used to break up the enemy's attack formation and to destroy his attack ~~through~~ forces before they can advance for an attack.

3. Fire against tanks

The primary mission, which takes precedence above all other assignments.

4. Barrage fire, to complement or ~~strengthen~~ the barrage fire of the infantry at points ~~where~~ ^{which} the infantry cannot bring under fire or which are particularly important or particularly threatened. One battery can bring a sector 200 meters wide under fire.

5. Fire in support of a counterattack is laid down in ~~approximately~~ the same ~~approximate~~ manner as fire in direct support and protective fire in an attack.

14. Mission in a delaying action

1. Harassing ~~and disturbing~~ fire
2. Fire against tanks
3. Barrage fire.

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